SPECIES DATA
National Inventory of Range Maps and Distribution Models

GAP — USGS GAP ANALYSIS PROGRAM
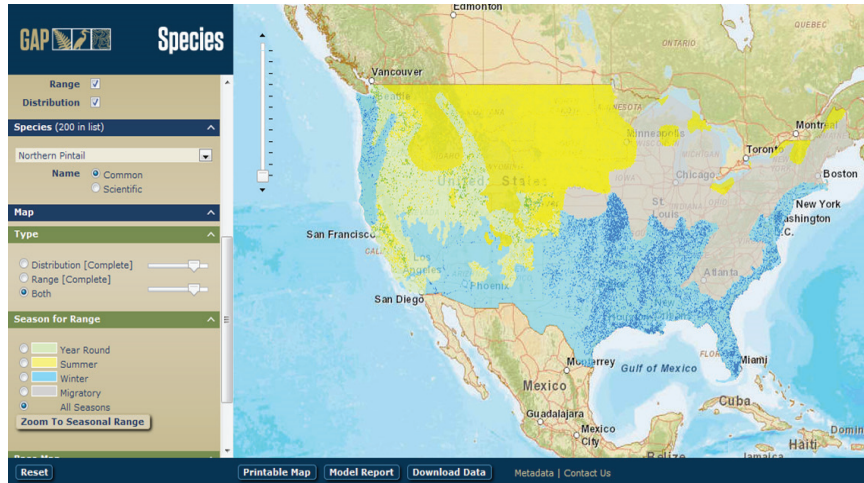
The Gap Analysis Program (GAP) Species data includes vertebrate range maps and distribution models for the continental U.S., as well as Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands. The vertebrate species include amphibians, birds, mammals, and reptiles. Furthermore, data used to create the distribution models (e.g., percent canopy cover, elevation, etc.) are also available.

Species data can viewed and downloaded from the GAP website: http://gapanalysis.usgs.gov

Learn more about the GAP Species Data, gap analysis and other available data, including protected areas data (PAD-US) and land cover at the GAP website.

GAP Species Data is published by the **USGS Gap Analysis Program (GAP)**. GAP produces data and tools that help meet critical national challenges such as bio-diversity conservation, renewable energy development, climate change adaptation, and infrastructure investment.

Key Features

- Species range maps are represented by 12-digit hydrologic units (HUCs) with attributes including reproductive and seasonal use.

- Species distribution models, created at 30 meter resolution, are based on habitat associations from published literature and core data sets, such as elevation and hydrological characteristics (i.e., salinity, water type, and velocity). All these data are available for download.

- Species distribution models include winter, summer, and year round areas.

- To date, we have a portion of our total species, >2000, available through GAP's Species Viewer. As more species ranges and distribution models are completed, we will continually update our data.

- Information regarding model variables used to create each species distribution model is available through GAP's Species Viewer.
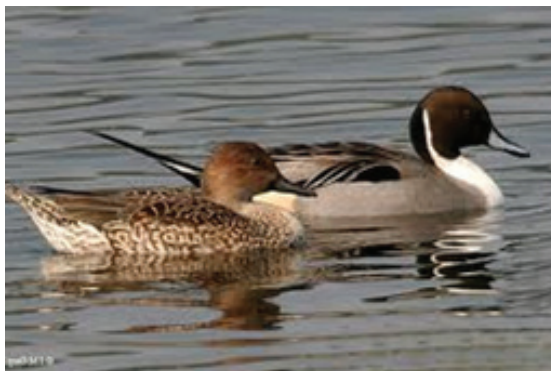
Uses of Species Data

- Use information regarding species geographic location for conservation planning and conservation forecasting (e.g. climate change)

- Understand spatial patterns of species occurrence (e.g., species richness)

- Basis for national biodiversity assessment of vertebrate species occurring in United States

- Each range and distribution model represents a base on which to build upon as new data or project-specific data become available

- Identify species that are under- or not represented within current protected areas

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